

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. For collecting a specimen of a substance, a sampler,  
comprising:  
a sampler body;  
a platen having first and second opposing sides, the first  
side being removably coupleable to an end of the sampler body; and  
a sampling medium coupleable to the second side and configured  
to retain a specimen of a substance thereon.

2. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a  
plunger slidably coupled to the sampler body and configured to  
removably couple to the platen.

3. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 wherein the sampling  
medium comprises a foil of silver, carbon, indium, copper, or gold.

4. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a  
platen cap configured to removably couple to the sampler body  
proximate the platen.

5. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a  
rotatable platen coupled to the sampler body and configured to  
selectably expose the sampling medium.

6. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a  
specimen cap coupled to the platen.

7. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a  
spring interposed the platen and the sampler body, the spring  
configured to retract the platen within the sampler body.

8. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a  
security cap removably coupleable to the sampler body distal the  
platen.

9. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 wherein the platen is  
configured to couple to an analytical tool.

10. The sampler as recited in Claim 9 wherein the analytical  
tool is selected from the group consisting of:  
a scanning electron microscope;  
an Auger electron microscope;  
a focused ion beam tool; and  
an X-ray reflection diffractometer.

11. A method of manufacturing a sampler for collecting a specimen of a substance on a surface, comprising:

coupling a sampler body to a platen having first and second opposing sides at the first side; and

coupling a sampling medium to the second side, the sampling medium configured to retain a specimen of a substance thereon.

12. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising slidably coupling a plunger to the sampler body, the plunger configured to removably couple to the platen.

13. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein coupling a sampling medium includes coupling a sampling medium comprising a foil of silver, carbon, indium, copper, or gold.

14. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising coupling a platen cap to the sampler body proximate the platen, the platen cap configured to removably cover the platen.

15. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising coupling a rotatable platen to the sampler body, the rotatable platen configured to selectably expose the sampling medium.

16. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising

2 coupling a specimen cap to the platen.

17. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising  
2 interposing a spring between the platen and the sampler body, the  
3 spring configured to retract the platen within the sampler body.

18. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising  
2 coupling a security cap to the sampler body distal the platen.

19. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein coupling a  
2 platen includes coupling a platen configured to couple to an  
3 analytical tool.

20. The method as recited in Claim 19 wherein coupling a  
2 platen includes coupling a platen configured to couple to an  
3 analytical tool selected from the group consisting of:

- 4 a scanning electron microscope;
- 5 an Auger electron microscope;
- 6 a focused ion beam tool; and
- 7 an X-ray reflection diffractometer.